

MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
POPULATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 21, 2003  
MAG Office, Suite 200, Saguaro Room  
302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

George Pettit, Gilbert, Chairman  
Adrian Williamson, Avondale  
\*\*Liz Zeller, Buckeye  
\*Usama Abujbarah, Cave Creek  
David de la Torre, Chandler  
\*Rodney Cobb, El Mirage  
\*Denise Ruhling, Fountain Hills  
\*Terry Yergan, Gila River Indian Community  
Ron Short, Glendale  
Janeen Hollomon, Goodyear  
\*Gary Smith, Guadalupe

\*Duncan Miller, Paradise Valley  
\*Horatio Skeete, Litchfield Park  
Tom Ellsworth, Mesa  
\*Matt Holm, Maricopa County  
Prisila Ferreira, Peoria  
Tim Tilton, Phoenix  
John Kross, Queen Creek  
\*Harry Higgins, Scottsdale  
Scott Phillips, Surprise  
\*Mark Elma, Tempe  
\*Mark Fooks, Youngtown  
Anne MacCracken, RPTA

\*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

\*\*Participated via audioconference

T Participated via videoconference

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

John Zupon, Chandler  
Anubhav Bagley, MAG  
Michelle Greene, MAG

Jack Tomasik, MAG  
Elaine Trammell, MAG  
Harry Wolfe, MAG  
Rita Walton, MAG

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chairman George Pettit.

2. Call to the Audience

There were no requests from the audience to address the MAG POPTAC.

3. Approval of Minutes of October 15, 2002

It was moved by Prisila Ferreira, seconded by Tom Ellsworth and unanimously recommended, with one abstention, to approve the meeting minutes of October 15, 2002.

4. Release of Census Transportation Planning Package

Harry Wolfe explained that the first data product for the Census Transportation Planning Package (CTPP) was released at the end of 2002 and contains information at the State and county level of geography. He noted that the CTPP is a set of special tabulations from the decennial census that contains tabulations by place of residence, place of work, and for flows between home and work.

Prisila Ferreira asked if the CTPP would identify precisely where people were traveling to work instead of simply the amount of time it would take them to get there. Harry Wolfe, responded that the CTPP would provide home to work information by Traffic Analysis Zone.

George Pettit asked when the subcounty CTPP data would be available. Harry Wolfe responded that it would be available sometime in 2003.

5. Population Options for 2005

Harry Wolfe explained that the MAG Management Subcommittee on 2005 populations options met in December and January to discuss potential the costs and benefits of various options for deriving 2005 population figures for distributing state-shared revenue. He said that the Census Bureau provided MAG with a \$3.6 million cost estimate for conducting a survey for each jurisdiction in the region with a 95% confidence interval +/- 2 percent accuracy. He added that the Subcommittee had requested that the Bureau prepare alternative cost estimates to determine what it would cost for a more accurate survey. Mr. Wolfe also stated that state law would need to be changed in order to be able to undertake a survey.

George Pettit indicated that MAG members were considering taking a unified position on obtaining 2005 population counts. He said that draft legislation will be considered this legislation to allow for a survey instead of a Special Census.

6. Status of DES Socioeconomic Projections for Maricopa County

Harry Wolfe said that DES is awaiting the release of in and out county to county migration data from the Census Bureau to prepare a draft set of socioeconomic projections for Arizona and its counties. He continued that once the Maricopa County draft projections were prepared, reviewed, and revised as needed based on comments received, they would become the official county control totals from which MAG will develop official subregional socioeconomic projections.

7. Comments on Draft 2 of the MAG Socioeconomic Projections

Rita Walton provided a status report on Draft 2 of the MAG Socioeconomic projections. She indicated that Draft 2 of the Socioeconomic Projections had been used by the MAG consultants preparing the Regional Transportation Plan. She said that MAG staff had visited with the staff of MAG member agencies to solicit additional input on the draft 2 and thanked member agencies for

their efforts.

Ms. Walton said the final deadline for comments on the Draft 2 projections was January 31, 2003. She said that MAG needs these projections for its regional planning programs as soon as possible.

8. Use of REMI Model for Producing County Projections

Harry Wolfe indicated that MAG had contracted to use REMI, a regional model for making projections of population and employment, as input to our socioeconomic projections process. He introduced Jack Tomasik, Regional Development Manager, MAG, to give a presentation on the REMI model.

Mr. Tomasik discussed the types of variables that the REMI model could produce noting that it generated the data at the County level of geography and could be used for projections for either Maricopa or Pinal County. It was mentioned that the model could be used for developing employment county control totals and for undertaking impact analysis.

Tim Tilton asked if MAG still needed to update its employment database in light of the REMI model. Harry Wolfe responded that keeping the employment database updated was crucial to any type of projections MAG was undertaking. Anubhav Bagley commented that MAG was obtaining a new database from Dun & Bradstreet to assist in updating the MAG employment database.

Tim Tilton asked about the assumptions in the REMI model regarding the growth in Hispanic population. He added that there is some debate on whether present trends will continue.

Jack Tomasik responded that REMI uses federal data for its assumptions. He said that MAG was also using a projection by economy.com. He suggested that POPTAC members participate on a Committee to provide input on REMI. Harry Wolfe responded that the MAG POPTAC Ad Hoc Subcommittee could provide input on the REMI model..

9. Release of Economic Census Survey for 2002

Harry Wolfe indicated that the Census Bureau had mailed out an Economic Census Survey late last year to 5 million businesses throughout the United States. He encouraged member agencies to let their businesses know that filling out the survey was important.

Tim Tilton asked if MAG intended to do anything. The Economic Census is essential to business and government decision making. It is the major source of facts about the structure and function of our Nation's economy and the foundation for most measures of economic performance. Conducted every five years, the Economic Census uses information about businesses and other organizations to provide reliable data by industry and geographic area. The last Economic Census was conducted in 1997 and the 2002 Economic Census report form was distributed to five million businesses in December of last year. The Census form is distributed to all businesses with five or more employees and a sample of smaller businesses. Title 13 of the United States Code requires responses to the census form by February 12, 2003. The Census Bureau is requesting support in encouraging recipients of the forms to fill them out and return them in a timely manner.

10. Next Meeting of MAG POPTAC

George Pettit reported that the next meeting of the MAG POPTAC is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18, 2003. He requested that an update of what is happening in MAG member agencies be placed on the February agenda.